

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MANAMA 01205 281148Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 DOE-15 SOE-02 OES-07 AGRE-00  
/044 W

-----008262 281151Z /50

R 281005Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6211  
INFO USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMCONGEN DHAHRAN  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
USLO RIYADH  
AMCON SHIRAZ  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS MANAMA 1205

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: BEXP XF  
SUBJECT: PROMOTIONAL POSSIBILITIES FOR  
ENERGY CONSERVATION

REF: STATE 133362

1. EMBASSY MANAMA SEES VERY LITTLE POTENTIAL FOR THE  
TRADE PROMOTION EVENT OUTLINED IN REFTEL, EVEN THOUGH  
BAHRAIN IS AS CLOSE IN TIME AS ANY OF THE REFTEL  
ADDRESSEES TO BECOMING AN OIL-LESS COMPANY. THE GOB HAS  
DEMONSTRATED ENERGY CONSERVATION INTEREST ONLY IN THE  
ASSOCIATED GAS BEING FLARED FROM OIL WELLS AND HAS A  
PROJECT UNDERWAY TO COLLECT THIS RESOURCE. OTHER ASPECTS  
OF ENERGY CONSERVATION ARE SIMPLY TOO FAR DOWN ON THE  
LIST OF GOB PRIORITIES TO AROUSE ANY INTEREST. WE BELIEVE  
THAT THIS CONDITION WILL CONTINUE LONG ENOUGH THAT NEW  
TECHNOLOGIES WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE THE GOB IS READY  
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PAGE 02 MANAMA 01205 281148Z

TO MOVE.

2. PRIVATE ENTERPRISE IN BAHRAIN HAS NO MOTIVATION TO  
SERIOUSLY CONSIDER ENERGY CONSERVATION WHEN ENERGY IS  
ARTIFICIALLY PRICED SO LOW THAT IT IS CONSIDERED VIRTUALLY  
INSIGNIFICANT AS A COST FACTOR EVEN IN ENERGY INTENSIVE  
INDUSTRY. BAHRAIN HAS GOOD GAS RESERVES AND THIS IS THE

MAJOR ENERGY SOURCE. EVEN THE ALUMINUM REFINERY, WHICH IN MOST LOCATIONS WOULD CONSIDER ENERGY AS THE MAJOR COST ITEM, IS CONCERNED PRIMARILY WITH THE COST OF LABOR, OF IMPORTED CAPITAL GOODS AND OF IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS. WE ARE TOLD THAT PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR PROPOSED SMALL

INDUSTRIES FOR BAHRAIN IGNORE ENERGY COSTS UNTIL FINAL FEASIBILITY STAGES.

3. ENERGY ALTERNATIVES HAS GAINED GROUND RECENTLY AS A SUBJECT FOR SERIOUS STUDY FOR LONG TERM APPLICATION AND EVEN IN THE SHORT TERM FOR LIMITED SPECIAL APPLICATION. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT TRADE PROMOTION IN THIS FIELD HAS BEEN WELL COVERED RECENTLY WITH THE SOLTECH 78 SHOW IN BAHRAIN IN LATE APRIL AND THE U.S. TRADE CENTER SHOW ON SOLAR ENERGY IN TEHRAN THE FOLLOWING WEEK. OTHER ENERGY ALTERNATIVES THAN SOLAR ARE NOT OF MUCH PRESENT INTEREST.

4. IF A TRADE PROMOTION EVENT WERE TO BE SCHEDULED FOR THIS REGION, THE SEMINAR WOULD BE THE PREFERABLE FORMAT. FOR BAHRAIN, THE DECEMBER TIME PERIOD WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE AS WE HAVE THE ELECTRICAL ENERGY TRADE MISSION SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER AND HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH USDA A FOOD FAIR IN BAHRAIN DURING THE LATE JANUARY OR FEBRUARY PERIOD.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** PROMOTIONAL POSSIBILITIES FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION  
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**To:** STATE  
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